

animals have been domesticated, though less successfully than the fox—raccoon, mink, marten, skunk, muskrat and beaver. For a review of the fur farming industry of Canada, see pp. 259 to 261 of the 1927-28 edition of the Year Book.

**Conservation.**—The conservation of the wild life of Canada has been made a special object of Government policy through the organization, in 1916, of the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection, to co-ordinate the efforts of various Departments and Branches of the Dominion Government in matters relating to the conservation of the wild life resources of Canada. The Northwest Game Act and the Migratory Birds Convention Act are the most important subjects to which the attention of the Board is specially directed and upon which it makes recommendations. In addition, the Board investigates and studies all problems relating to the protection and better utilization of all fur-bearing animals, "big game" mammals and to bird life, whether game birds, insectivorous birds or others. The Board serves entirely without remuneration and in the twelve years of its existence has incurred no expenditure.

In all provinces and territories of the Dominion, regulations governing the taking of fur-bearing animals are in force, and most kinds are protected during certain seasons of the year. In cases where special protection is necessary to avoid extermination of the species, the killing of the animals is prohibited for a period of years. Licenses are required for trapping and trading, and a direct revenue is derived by the provinces and territories from raw furs.

**Fur Trade Statistics.**—Statistics of the number and value of raw furs and skins taken were collected at the decennial censuses of 1881 and subsequently till 1911, the figures showing a value of \$987,555 taken in 1880, \$768,983 in 1890, \$899,645 in 1900 and \$1,927,550 in 1910. In 1920 the Dominion Bureau of Statistics commenced the annual collection of returns from fur traders, and the figures of pelts taken and their value are given for the eight available years in Table 1. The high value shown in 1920 is due to the inflated prices of that time. Since 1921 the general tendency has been toward increased numbers and values.

Details by provinces of the number of pelts taken in the two latest years are given in Table 2, and details by kinds in Table 3. In the latter it will be noted that foxes, taken together, are the leaders, followed by muskrats and beavers. Minks, coyotes and martens each contributed in the year ended June 30, 1927, over \$1,000,000 to the fur production of Canada.

**1.—Summary of the Numbers and Values of Pelts purchased by Traders from Trappers and Fur Farmers, years ended June 30, 1920-1927.**

Years ended June 30.	Pelts.	Value of pelts.
	No.	\$
1920.....	3,600,004	21,387,005
1921.....	2,936,407	10,151,594
1922.....	4,366,790	17,438,867
1923.....	4,963,996	16,761,567
1924.....	4,207,593	15,643,817
1925.....	3,820,326	15,441,564
1926.....	3,686,148	15,072,244
1927.....	4,289,233	18,864,126